



Defense Finance and Accounting Service
1931 Jefferson Davis Highway
Arlington, VA 22240-5291

Press Release 99-08
July 1, 1999
For External Release

DFAS Opens European Operating Location

Many European non-tactical Army and Air Force finance and accounting offices will soon become part of the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS).

Under instructions from the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) William J. Lynn, III, DFAS began capitalization (transferring positions to DFAS) in June 1999. The agency's newest operating location, DFAS-Europe, is located at Kleber Kaserne, with additional offices on Ramstein Air Base, Vogelweh and Landstuhl. DFAS-Europe will employ over 600 personnel and falls under the operational control of the DFAS Indianapolis Center.

DFAS-Europe will perform accounting, vendor payments and disbursing functions in support of U.S. European Command, U.S. Army Europe, U.S. Air Forces in Europe, Defense Commissary Agency, U.S. Army Medical Command and other DoD activities in Europe.

The military services will continue to perform those functions not capitalized by DFAS-Europe, for example, military pay, travel computation, check cashing and conversions, and local national civilian pay and disbursing for these functions.

DFAS will not capitalize any tactical finance and accounting units or functions in Europe. These activities will be retained by the services to maintain readiness of the tactical finance units. The division of work load between DFAS and the services has been agreed upon by the DoD Comptroller, DFAS and the services.

DFAS was activated in January 1991 to reduce costs and improve the overall quality of DoD financial management through consolidation, standardization and integration of finance and accounting operations, procedures and systems. The agency seeks to provide quality support at the lowest possible cost.

In December 1992, DFAS took over responsibility for 332 installation finance and accounting offices. Today, the agency consists of a headquarters in Washington, D.C. and five centers in Cleveland and Columbus, Ohio; Denver, Colo.; Indianapolis, Ind. and Kansas City, Mo., and 20 regional operating locations.

For more information, please contact Cathy Ferguson, (703) 607-2716.

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